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CD NO.

COUNTRY Bolivia/Switzerland

DATE DISTR. 2 Mar 1949

**SUBJECT** Rene Seiler, Swiss Arms Dealer

NO. OF PAGES 2

PL ACE 25X1A6a

NO. OF ENCLS.  
(LISTED BELOW)

ACQUIRED

DATE OF INFO: 11/11/2001

SUPPLEMENT TO 25X1A2g  
REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

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The following additional information has been obtained concerning Rene Seiler, who has been in La Paz negotiating with the Director General of Police for the sale of small arms to the Bolivian Government.\*

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1. Seiler stated that, after his previous trip to La Paz in August-September 1948, he went to Buenos Aires, where he attempted to sell small arms to the Argentine government. However, that government decided to attempt to manufacture its own arms.
2. From Argentina Seiler said he traveled to Switzerland and then to the Scandinavian countries, returning to La Paz via Rio de Janeiro. His future plans call for a trip to Bangkok, Siam.
3. The Argentine government has requested him to return to Buenos Aires for further arms negotiations, according to Seiler, but he stated to Source that he did not like the arrogant manner in which the Argentines dealt with him and might not go to Buenos Aires.
4. Seiler made application on 7 February 1949 for a transit visa to the United States, and gave his proposed length of stay as one week.
5. The following biographical data was furnished by Seiler:

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Name: Rene Rudolphe Seiler  
Nationality: Swiss  
Passport No.: Swiss, #1111858/21266  
Date of birth: 7 June 1921  
Place of birth: Not given on application  
Height: 1.74 meters  
Weight: 80 kilograms  
Color of Eyes: Blue  
Color of Hair: Brown  
Marks of identification: None  
Occupation: Engineer (Seiler is known to have received a letter from Switzerland addressed to "Colonel Rene Seiler")

Document No. 07  
NO CHANGE in Class ☐  
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Class. CHANGED TO: TS  
DDA Memo, 4 Apr 77  
Auth: DDA REG. 77/1763  
Date: 11/05/78 By: 02

Document No. 101  
NO CHANGE in Class ☐  
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**CLASSIFICATION**

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This document is hereby regarded to  
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Name and address of Employer: Societe Industriale Suisse  
Neuhausen

Name and address of acquaintances in U.S.A.: Comeco International  
Co., 1674 Broadway, New York 19, N.Y.

Proposed length of stay: 1 week

American address: None

Date of previous visits to U.S.: None

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\* [REDACTED] Comment: In this matter the Bolivian government is chiefly concerned about two possibilities, viz., that Seiler will sell arms to groups opposing the government, such as the Movimiento Nacionalista Revolucionario (MNR), and that he may obtain or transport the arms in an irregular or illegal manner. However, at present, the second possibility is not deterring the Director General of Police from negotiating seriously with Seiler.

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